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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4701

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Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House
2369 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Hastert:

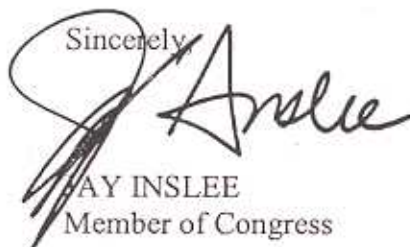
I am writing to urge you to keep the House of Representatives in session until resolution is reached on providing funds for cities, states, and municipalities to implement important homeland security measures.

As you know, communities across the country have worked hard to improve our homeland defenses, often times implementing mandates from Washington, D.C. At the same time, many of these communities are suffering from unprecedented budgetary shortfalls as a result of our nation's prolonged economic slowdown. Having only been in session for seven days, it would be unconscionable for Congress to walk away from its responsibilities in helping fund additional emergency first responder activities, and terrorism prevention measures.

Our current war on terrorism demands much of our men and women in uniform, public safety personnel, and the general public. We should expect no less of ourselves. It is incumbent upon us to demonstrate to the world that despite these trying times, Congress will get its work done, and Members of Congress will accept their additional responsibilities as have many states and cities across the country.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I strongly believe that meeting the financial needs of homeland security requirements should be among this year's highest priorities.

Sincerely,



JAY INSLEE
Member of Congress